

REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 13-17, 19-21 and 23-27 are currently pending. Claims 1-4, 21,23,24,26 and 27 are considered elected. Claims 5-11, 13-17, 19, 20 and 25 are withdrawn. Claims 12, 18 and 22 have been cancelled.

The Advisory Action stated that: *“The proposed amendments to claim 1 introduce new issues under 112, 1st and 2nd paragraph and therefore the amendment will not be entered. It is noted that claim language states that “using a diagnostic algorithm which allows the method to self-monitor after performing a clinical test” . One of skill in the art would recognize that methods are not generally considered capable of self-monitoring. Rather, systems, computers, machines etc... are capable of self-monitoring.”*

In response, applicant submits amendments in claim 1 to more particularly and specifically claim the invention. Claim 1 is amended to :

A method of optimizing clinical diagnosis of a disease using a disease-specific diagnostic algorithm in a programmable automation system which allows the[[method]] system to self-monitor after performing a clinical test, select the next appropriate test based upon the results obtained, and eliminate unnecessary tests....

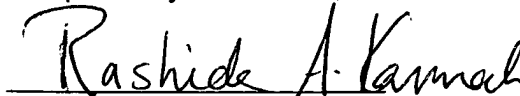
Support for the amendment is found in the first sentence of the application on page 1, lines 1 to 5.

No new matter is added.

In addition, upon allowance of these generic claims, applicant respectfully

requests that withdrawn claims 5-11, 13-17, 19, 20 and 25 be reinstated as being drawn to non-elected species pursuant to 37CFR 1.142(b) and be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



Rashida A. Karmali, Esq.
Reg. No. 43,705
Attorney for Applicants
99 Wall Street, 13th floor
New York, New York 10005
Tel: 212-651-9653
Fax: 212-651-9654

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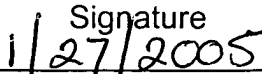
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Rashida A. Karmali
Attorney for Applicants



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